



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents and Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Tom Watkins

DATE: October 27, 2004

SUBJECT: Departmental Sex Education Survey

The Michigan Department of Education requests that every local education agency, public school academy, and separately governed intermediate school district center program **complete a survey** to assess the status of HIV/STD and sex education in Michigan schools. The Department receives federal funding to provide leadership and technical assistance in HIV prevention and this survey is a critical part of ongoing program evaluation efforts. Survey results will shape policy and program implementation, resource allocation, and technical assistance throughout the state. The information will help staff improve outreach efforts to support school districts in HIV/STD and sex education programming. Finally, the survey will identify the ways in which schools are adapting their programs to align with the law. Results will always be reported in aggregate and will not be associated with specific districts.

School districts have requested additional information regarding the new sex education legislation (2004 PA 165 and 166) that was signed into law by Governor Granholm in June of this year. An **informational packet** has been compiled to assist school administrators.

The Department asks that every district providing reproductive or sex education, per the Michigan School Code (§380.1506, §380.1507, §380.1507b), also complete a **Request for Approval of Sex Education Supervisor** form. The role of a program supervisor is established in law (§380.1506) and facilitates communication between the Department and local districts on HIV/STD and sex education updates.

The Department has created a web page specific to this correspondence. The page includes links to:

- 1) Sex Education/Reproductive Health Education Survey (due October 29, 2004).
- 2) HIV/STD and Sex Education in Michigan Schools: Informational Packet on the Laws.
- 3) Request for Approval of Sex Education Supervisor Form.

Click [here](#) to go to the web page.

The survey and supervisor form can be completed on the computer or printed and completed with pen or pencil. Both should be emailed or mailed no later than **December 3, 2004** to Laurie Bechhofer, HIV/STD Education Consultant, Grants Coordination and School Support, Michigan Department of Education, PO Box 30008, Lansing, Michigan 48909 bechhoferl@michigan.gov.

Thank you for taking the time to provide us with this essential information. The Department is committed to helping districts implement programs in concert with families and communities that help students make healthy and responsible decisions.

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